

## SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 13

INTRODUCED BY W. CRISMORE

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA URGING RECIPROCITY BETWEEN IDAHO AND MONTANA ON BIDDING PROCEDURES FOR STATE TIMBER SALES.

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the State of Montana to secure the full, fair market value of timber sold from state-owned forests held in trust for specific beneficiary institutions; and

WHEREAS, the various states in close proximity to Montana were all granted lands from the federal government as part of their respective enabling acts, with similar mandates that they be used exclusively for the benefit of public schools and institutions; and

WHEREAS, the State of Montana allows fair and open competitive bidding for timber sales on state-owned trust lands, with no discrimination as to the geographic location of processing facilities; and

WHEREAS, the State of Idaho has placed into statute highly discriminatory ~~and possibly unconstitutional~~ prohibitions on out-of-state purchasers bidding on timber held in trust for public schools and institutions of Idaho; and

WHEREAS, Montanans would rather cooperate than retaliate with laws to similarly protect our in-state industries.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

That the Montana Legislature request the Governor and each member of the Montana Congressional Delegation to urge the Idaho Legislature to repeal its laws that:

- (1) restrict or discourage Montana companies from bidding on Idaho state timber sales; or
- (2) treat Montana companies in any way differently from Idaho companies.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if the Idaho legislature has not repealed the type of laws referenced in subsections (1) and (2) by October 1, 2002, the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation be encouraged to propose legislation that will similarly favor Montana companies in the sale of timber in a manner that will ensure full, fair compensation to beneficiary institutions.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of State send copies of this resolution to each  
2 member of the Montana Congressional Delegation, the Idaho Legislature, and the Governor of Idaho.  
3 - END -